

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the Official Action mailed July 21, 2006.
Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully considered.

Claim 2 is objected to because of informalities. The claim is amended to obviate the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The claim is amended as indicated above to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Suganuma et al. (JP 08-255396) in view of Suzuki (JP 07-029279). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Suganuma teaches a recording media drive apparatus that includes a body, a front panel covering the front of the body and having an insertion/removal opening for inserting and removing recording media to and from the body, a slider and an eject button.

Suzuki teaches a disk loading device.

Claim 1, as amended, is directed to a recording media drive apparatus for use with recording media that includes a body, a front panel, covering the front of said body and having an insertion/removal opening for inserting and removing said recording media to and from said body and having a button insertion hole, a slider having a button support piece projecting forwards from the slider with the slider provided within said body for inducing an eject motion for ejecting said recording media installed within said body from said insertion/removal opening as a result of pushing from the front and an eject button connected to the button support piece and projecting forwards from said front panel through said button insertion hole and operable to move with said slider. Claim 1 also recites that said front panel is supported in a detachable manner as a result of front panel engagement with said body, said front panel engagement is achieved by moving said front panel towards said body, and a force to move said front panel in a direction away from said body acts in a direction releasing said front panel engagement. Further, claim 1 recites that the button support piece includes a flat main piece and a flat front piece extending perpendicularly to the flat main piece with the flat main piece having an engaging projection projecting therefrom and a pair of opposed engaging edges and the eject button has a coupling part and a button part integrally connected to the coupling part in a stepped-down manner with the coupling part having a flat upper

surface part with an engaging hole formed thereinto and a pair of opposed side surface parts with each side surface part formed with forwardly extending, opposing engaging grooves. Also, claim 1 recites that the button insertion hole of the front panel slidably receives the button part of the eject button and respective ones of the engaging grooves of the coupling part of the eject button slidably receive respective ones of the engaging edges of the flat main piece and the upper surface part of the coupling part resiliently moves to slide over the engaging projection on the main piece of the button support piece until the engaging projection of the button support piece matingly engages the engaging hole of the coupling part.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggest the features of claim 1 as amended. Specifically, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggest that the button support piece includes a flat main piece and a flat front piece extending perpendicularly to the flat main piece with the flat main piece having an engaging projection projecting therefrom and a pair of opposed engaging edges and the eject button has a coupling part and a button part integrally connected to the coupling part in a stepped-down manner with the coupling part having a flat upper surface part with an engaging hole formed thereinto and a pair of opposed side surface parts with each side surface part formed with forwardly extending, opposing engaging grooves.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that none of the applied art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests that the button insertion hole of the front panel slidably receives the button part of the eject button and respective ones of the engaging grooves of the coupling part of the eject button slidably receive respective ones of the engaging edges of the flat main piece and the upper surface part of the coupling part resiliently moves to slide over the engaging projection on the main piece of the button support piece until the engaging projection of the button support piece matingly engages the engaging hole of the coupling part. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to combine the features of the applied art because such combination would not result in the claimed invention. As a result, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the applied art.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1 and includes all of the features of claim 1. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is allowable at least for the reason claim 1 is allowable as well as for the features it recites. For instance, claim 2 recites that a front panel inclined surface is formed at the front panel engaging projection or at an edge of an opening of the

front panel engaging hole so as to cause the engaging projection or the front panel engaging hole to move in a direction away from the front panel engaging hole or the front panel engaging projection as a result of applying force to cause the front panel to move in a direction away from the body

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

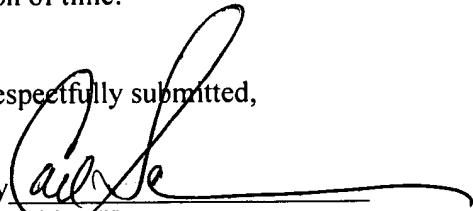
Also, newly-added claim 5 also includes features not shown in the applied art.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper or if a Petition for Extension of Time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 18-0013 for any such fees and Applicant(s) hereby petition for such extension of time.

Dated: February 23, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: Amendment Transmittal
Petition for Extension of Time (one month)